

own the world. As for the Russians, while we still have tears for the fate of the thousands whom a selfish and incapable oligarchy sent ill-equipped into battle at the outset of the war, the fact is now being emphasized that only an infinitesimal percentage of the population can either read or write. Their ignorance is such that they do not even know when they are themselves putting the yoke on their own necks. They have been as clay in the hands of the potter, and the potter now is German. In face of the many problems that now beset us, it is to be hoped that the solidarity of the Allies will be maintained. There is probably some small extent of cleavage at the moment, owing to the question of Japanese intervention. Some of the pacifists in England profess to believe that what they are pleased to call a "Japanese raid" in the East would be as bad as the German invasion of the West of Russia. On the other hand we all agree with President Wilson in wanting to help Russia, without blaming her present Government overmuch for tearing up treaties as "scraps of paper." The only difficulty is as to how it can be done. Meanwhile our great consolation, in what is undoubtedly going to be a most trying time, is that the place of Russia in the war has been taken by an older Republic than Russia. Her watch-word, like ours, is freedom, and freedom will in the end prevail.

**DANGERS OF** No recent war-utterance has done more to  
**PREMATURE** strengthen and encourage us in the faith than  
**PEACE** that of Mr. Asquith, who was Prime Minister of Great Britain at the outbreak of the war. He is on record as having said, the other day, that if he had to do the whole thing over again he would not hesitate, even with the knowledge of the suffering and loss it would involve. Everything that has happened since August, 1914, has justified us in the course we then resolved to follow, with practical unanimity. Here, in Canada, it need not be a matter of surprise that certain differences of opinion reveal themselves from time to time in governmental circles in London. This is obviously what